

105.1804 DT/Gibson, Sipel

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they purchased an evening paper, in which appeared a headline in substance, that the State's missing link had been found. Mrs. Sipel became excited and said to her husband right away that undoubtedly Mrs. Gibson was trying to get him into the case, and that the missing link referred to was Sipel. She tried to prevail upon him to report the matter, but he was reluctant about mixing into the affair. On Sunday he claims that some of his wife's relatives were there, and they endeavored to prevail upon him to report the matter, and to tell exactly what Mrs. Gibson was trying to do. However, he persisted in his refusal, and on Monday, his wife had occasion to go to New Brunswick to transact some banking matters, and unknown to her husband she inserted an article in the Home News to the effect that if Jennie Gibson said that he, Sipel, knew anything about the murders, that it was falsehood. That evening on his way home he was met by a bunch of reporters who demanded to know what he knew concerning the case. He said that he knew absolutely nothing and they showed him the item in the paper, which he afterwards found out that his wife has put in the paper, and he refused to have anything to say to the reporters, and he went on home and told his wife that in view of the fact that she "had made soup she could drink it," and he went up to his room and left his wife to face the newspaper men. The following morning he got up and left the farm and went to his sister in law in Newark where he remained for a couple of days, but was prevailed upon to return to his home, at which time he was subpoenaed to appear before the Grand Jury, which he did, and gave his story from start to finish.

In the latter half of the story which I repeated, and which I have above set forth, I told Mr. Sipel, in Mr. Watson's presence, that I made a mistake in repeating it, he should correct me, and he agreed that in substance this was his version of what had happened. Last evening he also told Mr. Watson and myself the great efforts to which the prosecution had gone in an effort to intimidate him, and to cause him to change his story. That they had accused him of having received money from Mrs. Hall or her representatives, which had induced him to tell the story which he had related to the Grand Jury. He further states that just before this investigation was to be renewed, that an automobile containing a number of men drove out to his farm one day and asked for Mr. Sipel. They informed him that they were from the Burns Detective Agency, and that a Mr. De Martine had forged a number of checks and had obtained money, under false pretenses, and they wanted to know how much money De Martine had given him.